

(B) in paragraph (2), in the flush matter following subparagraph (B), by striking “\$25,000” and inserting “\$100,000”;

(3) in subsection (c), by striking “\$25,000” and inserting “\$100,000”;

(4) in subsection (d), in the second flush matter following subparagraph (B), by striking “\$25,000” and inserting “\$100,000”; and

(5) in subsection (e), by striking “\$2,000” and inserting “\$4,000”.

(c) **EFFECTIVE DATE.**—The amendments made by this section shall apply to civil money penalties and fines imposed for actions taken on or after the date of enactment of this Act.

SEC. _____. INCREASED SENTENCES FOR FELONIES INVOLVING MEDICARE FRAUD AND ABUSE.

(a) **FALSE STATEMENTS AND REPRESENTATIONS.**—Section 1128B(a) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1320a-7b(a)) is amended, in clause (i) of the flush matter following paragraph (6), by striking “not more than 5 years” and inserting “not more than 10 years”.

(b) **ANTI-KICKBACK.**—Section 1128B(b) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1320a-7b(b)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (1), in the flush matter following subparagraph (B), by striking “not more than 5 years” and inserting “not more than 10 years”; and

(2) in paragraph (2), in the flush matter following subparagraph (B), by striking “not more than 5 years” and inserting “not more than 10 years”.

(c) **FALSE STATEMENT OR REPRESENTATION WITH RESPECT TO CONDITIONS OR OPERATIONS OF FACILITIES.**—Section 1128B(c) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1320a-7b(c)) is amended by striking “not more than 5 years” and inserting “not more than 10 years”.

(d) **EXCESS CHARGES.**—Section 1128B(d) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1320a-7b(d)) is amended, in the second flush matter following subparagraph (B), by striking “not more than 5 years” and inserting “not more than 10 years”.

(e) **EFFECTIVE DATE.**—The amendments made by this section shall apply to criminal penalties imposed for actions taken on or after the date of enactment of this Act.

SEC. _____. INCREASED SURETY BOND REQUIREMENT FOR SUPPLIERS OF DME.

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—Section 1834(a)(16)(B) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1395m(a)(16)(B)) is amended by striking “\$50,000” and inserting “\$500,000”.

(b) **EFFECTIVE DATE.**—The amendment made by this section shall apply to the issuance (or renewal) of a provider number for a supplier of durable medical equipment on or after the date of enactment of this Act.

NOTICES OF HEARINGS

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES

Mr. BINGAMAN. Mr. President, I would like to announce for the information of the Senate and the public that a hearing has been scheduled before the Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources. The hearing will be held on Thursday, January 31, 2008, at 10 a.m., in room SD-366 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building.

The purpose of the hearing is to receive testimony on the regulatory aspects of carbon capture, transportation, and sequestration and to receive testimony on two related bills: S. 2323, a bill to provide for the conduct of carbon capture and storage technology research, development and demonstra-

tion projects, and for other purposes; and S. 2144, a bill to require the Secretary of Energy to conduct a study of the feasibility relating to the construction and operation of pipelines and carbon dioxide sequestration facilities, and for other purposes.

Because of the limited time available for the hearing, witnesses may testify by invitation only. However, those wishing to submit written testimony for the hearing record may do so by sending it to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, United States Senate, Washington, DC 20510-6150, or by e-mail to Rosemarie_Calabro@energy.senate.gov

For further information, please contact Allyson Anderson at (202) 224-7143 or Rosemarie Calabro at (202) 224-5039.

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES

Mr. BINGAMAN. Mr. President, I would like to announce for the information of the Senate and the public that a hearing has been scheduled before the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

The hearing will be held on February 13, 2008, at 9:45 a.m., in room SD-366 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building.

The purpose of the hearing is to consider the President's fiscal year 2009 budget request for the Department of the Interior.

Because of the limited time available for the hearing, witnesses may testify by invitation only. However, those wishing to submit written testimony for the hearing record should send it to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, United States Senate, Washington, DC 20510-6150, or by e-mail to rachei_pastemack@energy.senate.gov.

For further information, please contact David Brooks at (202) 224-9863 or Rachel Pasternack at (202) 224-0883.

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

Mr. DORGAN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate Committee on the Judiciary be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate, in order to conduct a hearing entitled “Oversight of the Justice for All Act: Has the Justice Department Effectively Administered the Bloodsworth and Coverdell DNA Grant Programs?” on Wednesday, January 23, 2008, at 10 a.m. in room SD-226 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building.

Witness list

Panel I: Honorable Glenn A. Fine, Inspector General, Department of Justice, Washington, DC and John Morgan, Deputy Director for Science and Technology, National Institute of Justice, Department of Justice, Washington, DC.

Panel II: Larry A. Hammond, Partner, Osborn Maledon, Phoenix, AZ; Peter M. Marone, Director, Virginia Department of Forensic Science, Richmond, VA; and Peter J. Neufeld, Co-Di-

rector, The Innocence Project, Cardozo School of Law, New York, NY.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

PRIVILEGES OF THE FLOOR

Mrs. FEINSTEIN. Madam President, on behalf of Senator LEAHY, I ask unanimous consent that Matthew Solomon, a detailee on Senator LEAHY's Judiciary Committee staff, be given floor privileges during the debate and the vote of S. 2448, the FISA Amendment Act of 2007.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. DORGAN. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that Lindsey Miller and Katie Suchman of Senator GRASSLEY's staff be granted the privileges of the floor for the duration of debate on Indian health care legislation.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

HONORING THE 150TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE AMERICAN PRINTING HOUSE FOR THE BLIND

Mr. BROWN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate now proceed to the consideration of S. Res. 421, which was submitted earlier today.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will report.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 421) honoring the 150th anniversary of the American Printing House for the Blind.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mr. BROWN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, and the motions to reconsider be laid on the table.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The resolution (S. Res. 421) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

The resolution, with its preamble, reads as follows:

S. RES. 421

Whereas the American Printing House for the Blind was chartered in 1858 in Louisville, Kentucky by the General Assembly of Kentucky through An Act to Establish the American Printing House for the Blind, in response to a growing national need for books and educational aids for blind students;

Whereas Louisville, Kentucky was chosen as the best city in which to establish a national publishing house to print books in raised letters due to its central location in the country in 1858 and its efficient distribution system;

Whereas the 45th Congress passed an Act to promote the education of the blind in 1879 designating the American Printing House for the Blind as the official national source of textbooks and educational aids for legally blind students below college level throughout the country, and Congress appropriates

Federal funds to the American Printing House for the Blind annually for this purpose;

Whereas, for 150 years, the American Printing House for the Blind has identified the unique needs of people who are blind and visually impaired and has developed, produced, and distributed educational materials in Braille, large print, and enlarged print throughout the United States;

Whereas the American Printing House for the Blind serves more than 58,000 blind and visually impaired Americans each year; and

Whereas the American Printing House for the Blind each year attracts visitors from across the country and around the world to learn about the history of the education of the blind and to exchange information on the evolving needs of the population it serves: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) honors the 150th anniversary of the establishment of the American Printing House for the Blind in Louisville, Kentucky, and

(2) recognizes the important role the American Printing House for the Blind has played in the education of blind and visually impaired students throughout the United States.

COMMENDING THE LSU TIGERS FOOTBALL TEAM

Mr. BROWN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the consideration of S. Res. 422, which was submitted earlier today.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will report.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 422) commending the Louisiana State University Tigers football team for winning the 2007 Bowl Championship Series national championship game.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mr. BROWN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, and the motions to reconsider be laid on the table.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The resolution (S. Res. 422) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

The resolution, with its preamble, reads as follows:

S. RES. 422

Whereas the Louisiana State University Tigers football team won the 2007 Bowl Championship Series national championship game, defeating The Ohio State University by a score of 38 to 24 at the Louisiana Superdome in New Orleans, Louisiana, on January 7, 2008;

Whereas the Louisiana State University football team won the Southeastern Conference Championship on December 1, 2007, defeating the University of Tennessee by a score of 21 to 14 in the championship game at the Georgia Dome in Atlanta, Georgia;

Whereas the Louisiana State University football team won 12 games during the 2007 season;

Whereas the Louisiana State University football team won 7 games against nationally ranked opponents during the 2007 season;

Whereas the Louisiana State University football team set a total of 12 school offen-

sive records during the 2007 season including 541 points scored, averaging 38.6 points per game and 6,152 yards in total offense;

Whereas Craig Steltz was named first-team All-American and led the Southeastern Conference in interceptions;

Whereas defensive tackle Glenn Dorsey was awarded the Bronko Nagurski Trophy, the Rotary Lombardi Trophy, the Outland Trophy, and the Ronnie Lott Trophy, making him the most honored defensive player in Louisiana State University history;

Whereas quarterback Matt Flynn threw 21 touchdown passes during the 2007 season, including a career-high record of 4 touchdowns in the Bowl Championship Series national championship game;

Whereas running back Jacob Hester rushed for 1,103 yards during the 2007 season, scoring 12 touchdowns, and completed his collegiate football career of 364 carries without fumbling or turning over the football;

Whereas Louisiana State University head coach Les Miles has led the Tiger football program to 34 wins, 20 Southeastern Conference victories, 14 wins over nationally ranked opponents, and 3 double-digit win seasons as head coach; and

Whereas Louisiana State University is the first team to win 2 Bowl Championship Series national championship titles, having won 2 titles in 5 years: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) commends the Louisiana State University Tigers football team for winning the 2007 Bowl Championship Series national championship game;

(2) recognizes the achievements of all the players, coaches, and support staff who were instrumental in helping the Louisiana State University football team during the 2007 football season;

(3) congratulates the citizens of Louisiana, the Louisiana State University community, and fans of Tiger football; and

(4) requests the Secretary of the Senate to transmit an enrolled copy of this resolution to Louisiana State University for appropriate display.

Mr. BROWN. Mr. President, I regret I wasn't standing here with the congratulations of the Red Sox beating the Cleveland Indians earlier last year.

SEEKING THE RETURN OF THE USS "PUEBLO"

Mr. BROWN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the consideration of S. Res. 423, which was submitted earlier today.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 423) seeking the return of the USS Pueblo to the United States Navy.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mr. BROWN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, and the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The resolution (S. Res. 423) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

The resolution, with its preamble, reads as follows:

S. RES. 423

Whereas the USS Pueblo, which was attacked and captured by the Navy of North Korea on January 23, 1968, was the first ship of the United States Navy to be hijacked on the high seas by a foreign military force in more than 150 years;

Whereas 1 member of the USS Pueblo crew, Duane Hodges, was killed in the assault, while the other 82 crew members were held in captivity, often under inhumane conditions, for 11 months;

Whereas the USS Pueblo, an intelligence collection auxiliary vessel, was operating in international waters at the time of the capture, and therefore did not violate the territorial waters of North Korea;

Whereas the capture of the USS Pueblo resulted in no reprisals against the Government or people of North Korea and no military action at any time; and

Whereas the USS Pueblo, though still the property of the United States Navy, has been retained by the Government of North Korea for 40 years, was subjected to exhibition in the North Korean cities of Wonsan and Hungnam, and is now on display in Pyongyang, the capital city of North Korea: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) desires the return of the USS Pueblo to the United States Navy;

(2) would welcome the return of the USS Pueblo as a goodwill gesture from the North Korean people to the American people; and

(3) directs the Secretary of the Senate to transmit copies of this resolution to the President, the Secretary of Defense, and the Secretary of State.

ELECTING LULA JOHNSON DAVIS SECRETARY FOR THE MAJORITY OF THE SENATE

Mr. BROWN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of S. Res. 424, which is at the desk.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

Resolved, That Lula Johnson Davis, of Maryland, be and she is hereby, elected Secretary for the Majority of the Senate.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mr. BROWN. Mr. President, I congratulate the new appointee.

I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to, and the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The resolution (S. Res. 424) was agreed to.

ORDERS FOR THURSDAY, JANUARY 24, 2008

Mr. BROWN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it stand adjourned until 9:30 a.m., Thursday, January 24; that on Thursday, following the prayer and pledge, the Journal of proceedings be approved to date, the morning hour be deemed expired, and the time for the two leaders be reserved for their use later in the day,